

## Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05  
/089 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR/AT:EFEI:CD  
APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:WSTEARMAN  
NSC:RKIMMETT  
PM:AKOCHANЕК  
EUR/RPM:ENEWSOM

-----270513Z 130824 /21

R 270103Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 067988

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: US-FRG BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON ARMS CONTROL:  
CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS

1. ON MARCH 18, A TEAM FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF  
GERMANY LED BY ARMS CONTROL COMMISSIONER RUTH VISITED ACDA  
FOR CONSULTATIONS ON ARMS CONTROL ISSUES, AND DISCUSSED  
CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFER RESTRAINTS WITH A US TEAM  
HEADED BY ACDA ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEON SLOSS, WITH  
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STATE AND OTHER AGENCY REPRESENTATION.

2. THE US GAVE A BROAD OVERVIEW OF THE PROBLEM OF LIMITING  
CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS, INCLUDING THE TWO-PHASE US  
APPROACH CONSISTING OF AN INTERNAL POLICY REVIEW FOLLOWED  
BY TALKS WITH OTHER MAJOR SUPPLIERS AND RECIPIENTS. FRG  
ADVICE WAS SOLICITED ON USEFUL APPROACHES TOWARD THE

SOVIETS AND FRENCH, AND TOWARD ARMS RECIPIENTS.

3. AMBASSADOR RUTH SAID THAT WHILE THE FRG HAS A RESTRICTIVE POLICY, IT IS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN CONSIDERATIONS OF ARMS TRANSFER QUESTIONS. THEY FELT THAT SOME FORM OF SUPPLIERS' CLUB WOULD BE A NATURAL APPROACH. HOWEVER, THERE IS A PROBLEM IN ORGANIZING SUCH

A CLUB BECAUSE OF THE LIKELY NEGATIVE REACTION OF RECIPIENTS. THE SOVIET ROLE IS ALSO A CRUCIAL QUESTION. THEY DESCRIBED THE FRENCH AS VERY SKEPTICAL, AND THE FRG FELT THAT THE APPARENT FRENCH RECEPTIVITY TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE ON ARMS TRANSFER CONTROLS WAS PREDICATED ON OBTAINING SOVIET PARTICIPATION. THE FRG FELT THAT THE UK WAS LESS WARY OF ARMS TRANSFER CONTROLS, BUT NOT TERRIBLY ENTHUSIASTIC.

4. AS FOR INCENTIVES TO RECIPIENTS, AMBASSADOR RUTH NOTED THAT THE QUESTION OF FINDING A FORMULA TO LINK ECONOMIC AID LEVELS TO ARMS REDUCTION WAS VERY DIFFICULT BECAUSE THE ISSUE BROUGHT TOGETHER A PACKAGE OF PROBLEMS INVOLVING SIMULTANEOUSLY NORTH/SOUTH, EAST/WEST, AND ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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